

## **News Release**

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## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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August 2, 2001

## Harvey Lock to close for major repairs

NEW ORLEANS – The Harvey Lock will be closed to navigation for more than a month for its first dewatering and major repair in 13 years, the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers said Thursday.

The 420- by 75-foot lock connects the Mississippi River at New Orleans with the Harvey Canal and the westbound Gulf Intracoastal Waterway (GIWW), leading to Morgan City and Lake Charles.

"Inland waterway traffic will continue through the larger Algiers Lock\*, 10 miles downriver," said Steven Schinetsky, the Corps' operations manager for the GIWW in Louisiana. "Traffic should flow smoothly, as no repairs are expected at the Algiers Lock during this period."

Two closures are planned:

Add days: Aug. 7, at 6 a.m., to Aug. 10, at 6 p.m. The Corps' derrick barge Brownlee will remove the two canal-end gates and replace them with two refurbished gates. Each gate weighs 60 tons and is 35 feet tall.

≥ 25 days. Aug. 20, at 6 a.m. to Sept. 23, at 6 p.m., Sept. 23. Water will be pumped out of the chamber to facilitate repair. This was last done in 1988.

While the lock is empty, the Corps work crew will remove debris, such as tires, chains, and rock; replace seals on the gates; inspect and repair hinge connections; and repair concrete as needed.

Filename: 08-01 HARVEY Lock to Close for Repairs\_wheader.doc

Directory: N:\PAO\RELEASES

Template: C:\Documents and Settings\b2imimpm.MVN01\Application

Data\Microsoft\Templates\Normal.dot

Title: Subject:

Author: Preferred Customer

Keywords: Comments:

Creation Date: 8/3/2001 1:05 PM

Change Number: 3

Last Saved On: 8/3/2001 1:06 PM

Last Saved By: SirVive
Total Editing Time: 5 Minutes
Last Printed On: 8/3/2001 1:10 PM

As of Last Complete Printing Number of Pages: 1

Number of Words: 198 (approx.)

Number of Characters: 1,133 (approx.)